

Goodland wins 74-67 over Quinter Bulldogs

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
For three periods, the Quinter boys gave the Cowboys basketball team as much as they could handle and then some, but Goodland began the fourth quarter by turning a five-point lead into nine, holding on for a 74-67 win.

After exchanging the lead three times to start the game, the Cowboys built up a 12-4 margin — only to watch slip away until with a little over two minutes left in the first period as Bulldogs went ahead 15-14.

Senior Lane Winter's basket with about a minute left tied the score for Goodland at 16. Seconds later, Winter stole the ball and senior Derrick Raymer was fouled making a basket. His free throw gave the Cowboys a 19-16 lead going into the second quarter.

About a minute into the period, a three-pointer by Quinter's Grady Kesler tied the game at 21, then another three by teammate Tyler Reed gave the Bulldogs a 24-21 lead. The teams continued to exchange the lead until as basket by Raymer tied the game at 31 with 42 seconds left in the half.

About 30 seconds later, Raymer took a pass from junior guard Jase Herl and was fouled making a basket. Raymer hit the free throw to

make it 34-31. The Bulldogs were not done, though, as senior center Michael Grandison got an offensive rebound and made a basket to close the score to 34-33 at the half.

Grandison started the scoring in the second half with a free throw to tie it up again at 34. A basket by Herl made it 36-34, after which the Cowboys led the rest of the way. Goodland led 55-48 late in the third period, but Reed kept the Bulldogs within five with a basket with seconds left.

After taking a 59-50 lead early in the fourth quarter, the Cowboys were able to start running time off the clock. With the score 65-59, Quinter tried to conserve time by fouling but solid free throw shooting by Herl and junior Heath Chatfield kept the Bulldogs at bay and preserved a 74-67 Goodland win.

"I was very happy with the win," said Coach Jon McLean. "Our defense was not as good as it has been. Quinter had some quickness that gave us some trouble, plus they had some very good shooters."

Winter led the Cowboys with 23 points, followed by Raymer with 21 and Herl with 19. Junior Heath Chatfield and freshman Jance McKee both scored four points, and senior Brock Lohr three.

Raymer had 14 rebounds and Winter grabbed six. Herl, Lohr and

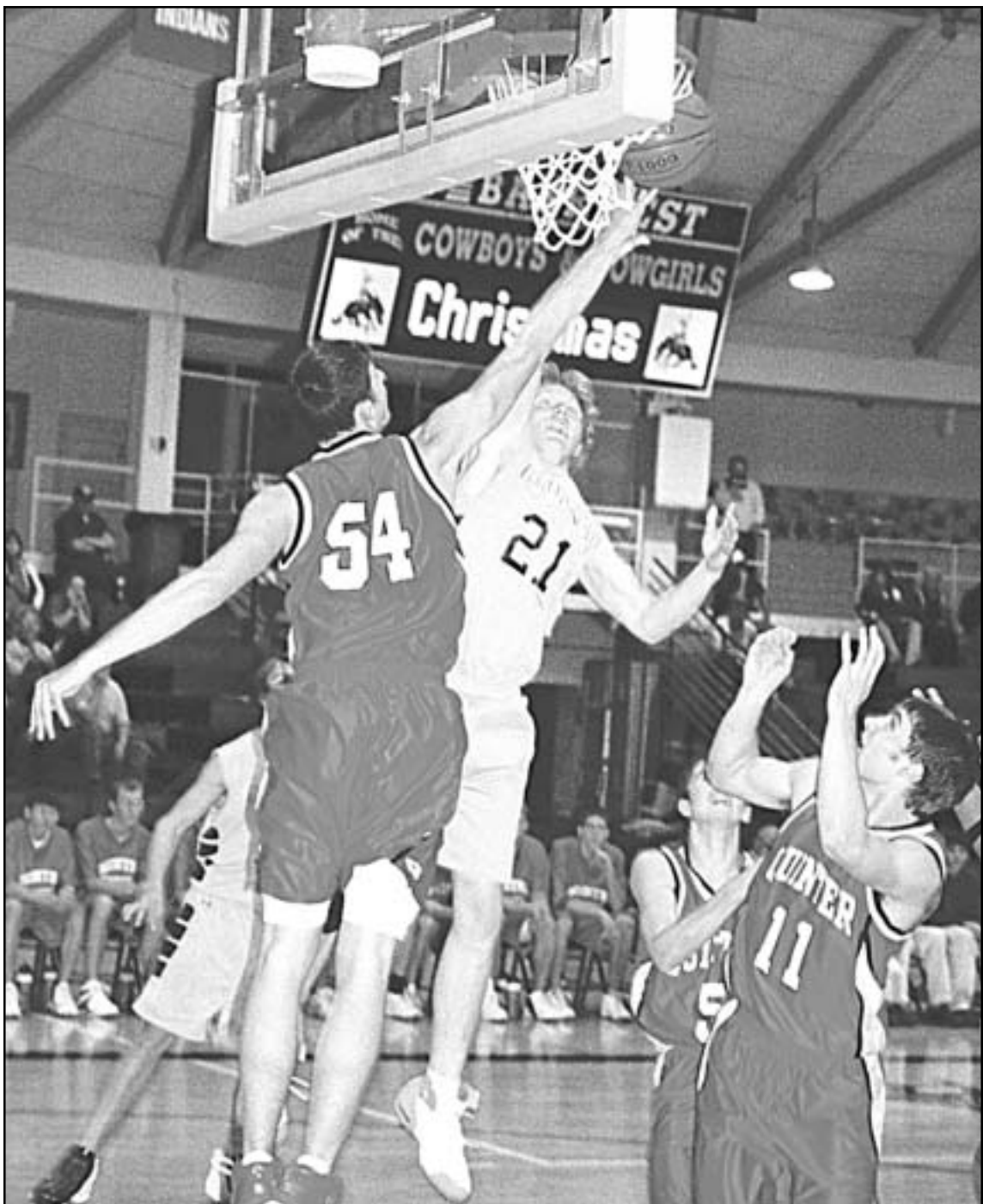
senior David Livengood each had four.

Friday's win puts the Cowboys, now 6-1 for the season, back on the winning trail after suffering their first loss last Tuesday in Hays. The players will take a break for the holidays, then face the Trojans of Stanton County High School from Johnson City on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

"I'm happy with our progress," McLean said. "I think after the break we have a chance to really improve and become a very good team. I'm proud of these guys. To be 6-1 at this time is a tribute to how good of athletes these players are."

Senior Lane Winter (No. 21) tried to score over Quinter's Craig Finger during the first half of Friday's 74-67 Goodland win over the Bulldogs at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Lane led the Cowboys with 23 points. Lane and his teammates will return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at home against Stanton County High of Johnson City.

Photo by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls win second straight, beating Lady Bulldogs 56-31

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
The Cowgirls basketball team went into the Christmas break on a two-game winning streak after defeating the Lady Bulldogs of Quinter 56-31 on Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Quinter shot out to an early 4-0 lead, but a three-point basket by sophomore Lindsey Schields, who also scored a two-point basket a few seconds later, gave Goodland its first lead 5-4. A basket by Quinter's

Melissa Grandison returned the lead to the Bulldogs 6-5.

Sophomore Dani Bedore tied the game at 6 with a free throw, after which the game belonged to the Cowgirls, as they scored 14 of the next 16 points to lead 20-8 at the end of the first period.

The teams played even ball in the second period, with both scoring 11 points to make it 31-19 at halftime.

The Cowgirls started the third quarter with one of their signature periods of "defensive intensity," holding Quinter scoreless for the

first 3/12 minutes while scoring 13 straight for a 44-19 lead. Goodland outscored the Bulldogs 18-4 in the period.

Leading 49-23 going into the final period, the Cowgirls scored four of the next six points. Sophomore Emily Murray then hit a basket for a 55-25 Goodland lead with about six minutes left. With the 30-point lead the officials, by rule, began a continuous clock for the rest of the game.

The scoring pace slowed down and the Cowgirls held on for a 56-

31 victory and improved to 6-1 for the season.

Bedore led Goodland with 16 points, followed by sophomore Whitney Archer with 14 and junior Justeen Koehler with 12. Both Murray and Schields scored five points, and senior Whitney Carmichael and junior Melissa Swager added two each.

Archer grabbed six rebounds to lead the Cowgirls, followed by Bedore with five. Murray and Koehler both had four rebounds.

Grandison led the Lady Bulldogs

with 13 points and Jocelyn Anderson scored 10.

Coach Don Smith said Friday's game had the best offensive execution by the Cowgirls of the season. He said what pleased him most was the improvement in the players' ability to spot openings in the defense and recognize scoring opportunities.

Although the Cowgirls "defensive intensity" has been one of the keys in their victories this season, and the team has made improvement, Smith said there is still "a

ways to go" before the team gets where he wants it to be.

The next time the Goodland girls hit the hard court will be Tuesday, Jan. 4, when Stanton County High of Johnson City makes a visit to Max Jones Fieldhouse, starting around 5:30 p.m.

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